

# The Range Rider

## SPECIAL LAND-USE REGULATIONS APPROVED

New regulations permitting special use of portions of the public domain not heretofore specifically covered by Federal law were approved by Secretary Ickes on November 19, 1940, upon the recommendation of the Commissioner of the General Land Office. These regulations are designed to permit use of the public land in the interest of national defense and conservation.

The issuance of these permits, both within and without grazing districts, will facilitate administration and will meet a long-felt need in proper land-use planning and administration. The Grazing Service considers that these special land-use permits can be adapted so that they will enable the various administrative agencies to give a better public service along the broad lines of conservation as set down by the Department and will have special application as to uses such as civilian target ranges, municipal garbage dumps, apiaries, commercial movable shearing plants, special uses for the propagation of fur-bearing animals and commercial fur-farming enterprises, administrative sites for other Federal agencies of the Department of the Interior or even other Departments outside of the Interior, contact and travel-checking stations in cooperation with States for hunting permits, powder and cap storage houses, storage sites for other Federal agencies, and special recreational areas not covered by existing legislation.

When applications are received by the General Land Office for special land-use permits within grazing districts, a duplicate of the application will be transmitted to the proper regional grazier of the Grazing Service. The regional grazier will examine the lands involved and report to the Director of Grazing whether the proposed use would interfere in any way with the administration of the grazing district or whether there are other objections. If the regional grazier believes the special-use permit should be issued he will so state in his report. The Director of Grazing will transmit the report to the General Land Office and the Commissioner of that office will not issue a special land-use permit in any case until the Director of Grazing has reported that the permit, if issued, will not interfere with the proper administration of the grazing

district. The Grazing Service will supervise all special land-use permits issued in grazing districts.

The new regulations provide that occupancy of the tract sought will not be allowed prior to the issuance of the special permit by the General Land Office; 2-1/2 acres is the smallest subdivision of public domain for which a permit will be issued; permits will not be granted for a period in excess of 5 years; an annual rental will be paid in accordance with the value of the land for the proposed use but in any case not less than \$5 per annum.

These permits may be revoked by the Secretary of the Interior whenever the regulations have been violated or when a better use for the land has been determined. Timber cannot be removed from the lands covered by a special-use permit unless allowed under regulations covering the removal of timber from public lands.

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#### WRITERS' PROJECT

Mr. George F. Willison, assistant editor of the WPA Writers' Project, was an office visitor the other day. He brought the good news that material for the History of Grazing is now coming in from all States--in fact he tells us that he already has some 2,000,000 words on the subject from which he will squeeze out 200,000 special words for use in the book. This will require a couple of major operations!

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#### NOW THAT THE FIRE SEASON IS OVER

.....we read that smokers caused 25 percent of them, incendiaries 23 percent, debris burners 14 percent, and lightning 9 percent, followed closely by campers.

In the December 1940 issue of American Forests there is a good story about an unclassifiable fire in Nevada. "A sheep herder in the Humboldt National Forest having to move camp, packed his burros and sent them ahead down the trail while he rounded up some of his sheep. When he caught up with his pack train he was mystified to find it the center of a big smoke. Investigation revealed that one of the burros, with characteristic curiosity, had poked its nose into the pack of the burro ahead and had pulled out a box of matches which it proceeded to step on. Result: an 80-acre fire and a sad but wiser sheep herder."

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#### DO YOU KNOW

.....THAT the livestock industry produces more by-products than any other industry in the world? The total value of these by-products in one year amounts to nearly \$2,000,000,000!

--American Cattle Producer, Dec. 1940

IF GRASS ONLY GREW LIKE THIS!

Growth rate of yucca-flower stalks measured at Sequoia National Park, California, indicates growth of from 7 to 11 inches within a 24-hour period.

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THE FAMILY GROWS

Idaho's Twin Falls Grazing District has been separated into two districts of almost equal size with the deep gorge of the Snake River forming a dividing line. This brings the number of Federal grazing districts to 56.

Twin Falls (No. 2) will be carried as the name of the south half of the area and a new name will be selected for the north half which will be known officially as Idaho Grazing District No. 5.

The original district embraced approximately 7,000,000 acres of land. The Snake River and its adjoining belt of irrigated land divided the area into two complete and distinct livestock-units. Division of the area was recommended by the local advisory board and range users. It will permit closer range administration and reduce travel time and expense of Grazing Service employees and advisory boards.

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WASHINGTONIANS HEAR ABOUT US

Bud Molohon was guest speaker at the annual dinner-meeting of the Federal Club at the Roosevelt Hotel in Washington on December 3.

He traced the history and highlights of the acquisition, disposal, and management of the public lands of the United States and then enlarged upon the subject of conservation and proper use of the land fostered by the Taylor Grazing Act and executed by the Grazing Service. He sketched a clear picture of what these grazing district lands are, why they are so important to the stability and economy of the livestock industry and how the conservation and use of the resources of these lands affect local and national interests.

The talk aroused the interest of this group of Government officials of which the Federal Club is composed. The club has a membership of about 200 supervisory and technical men representing many Government agencies in Washington. It meets four times yearly to foster close relationship between bureaus and agencies and to furnish a means of interchanging views and information relating to how the several bureaus serve the public. Messrs. Peterson, Falck, and Hopper of the Grazing Service are members of the organization.

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THREE CHEERS

We think there might be some rejoicing in Grazing District offices these days; following the announcement that quarterly narrative reports will take the place of monthly reports in the future. This plan was adopted in an effort to lessen the office-work load of field officers but doesn't mean that we still don't want those reports and news items while they are "hot."

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CHIEF OF LANDS BRANCH WED

Archie Ryan is receiving the congratulations and good wishes of his friends these days. The reason? --his marriage, November 9, to Mrs. Berniece Bade. The new Mrs. Ryan formerly worked for the Grazing Service in Reno and Salt Lake City.

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Regional Grazier Dierking is making it easy for newspapers and magazines in the New Mexico region to get on the mailing list of the Division of Information, Department of the Interior, from which source comes news releases about Interior Department activities.

"Little Bud" has mimeographed a note-request on slips of paper about 4 x 5 inches in size, addressed to the Division of Information. Distribution of these to newspapers and magazines throughout the State in the regular course of field work is a simple matter. The notes require only the name and address of the newspaper wishing to receive the press releases.

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"Busy people can do their job better if they know just what to do and how to do it." -- Director Rutledge at the Mud Springs Conference.

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MORE CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATIONS ANNOUNCED

Senior Photographer, No. 157, closes December 31, 1940  
 Asst. Photographer, No. 157, closes December 31, 1940  
 Multilith Cameraman and Platemaker, No. 163, Dec. 31, 1940 (Wash., D. C. only)  
 Multilith Press Operator, No. 163, December 31, 1940 (Wash., D.C. only)  
 Horizontal Sorting Machine Operator, No. 164, December 31, 1940  
 Blueprint Operator, No. 165, December 31, 1940  
 Photostat Operator, No. 165, December 31, 1940  
 Sr. Bookkeeping Machine Operator, No. 166, December 31, 1940  
 Transportation Tariff Examiner (Freight) No. 167, Dec. 31, 1940  
 Transportation Tariff Examiner (Passenger) No. 167, December 31, 1940

Also Lens Grinder, Loftsmen, Shipfitter, Machinist, Instrument Maker--until further notice.